Message Text

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DEPT PASS NASA FOR ZOOK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, TSPA, UR, US

SUBJ: SHUTTLE-SALYUT DRAFT AGREEMENT: US-USSR SPACE AGREEMENT (04.00)

REF: (A) MOSCOW 5071, (B) STATE 83595

1. VERESHCHETIN PROVIDED SCICOUNS APRIL 19 WITH RUSSIAN VERSION OF DRAFT AGREEMENT. HE MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS: (A) TITLE REMAINS "AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND NASA ON SPACE RESEARCH AND COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF MANNED SPACE FLIGHT". VERESHCHETIN NOTED THAT FRUTKIN LETTER (REF B) PROVIDES OPTION FOR SOVIETS TO RETAIN THE TITLE THAT THEY ORIGINALLY PROPOSED FOR AGREEMENT. (B) PARAGRAPH IN ARTICLE 1 THAT BEGINS "WITHING 30 DAYS AFTER THE AGREEMENT BECOMES EFFECTIVE ..." HAS FOLLOWING PHRASE ADDED AT THE END OF PARAGRAPH. "THE WORK OF BOTH JOINT WORKING GROUPS SHOULD BEGIN SIMULTANEOUSLY". VERESHCHETIN NOTED HERE THAT PHRASE IN FRUTKIN LETTER (REF B) CONCERNING WORKING GROUPS "SINCE THIS IS THE ORDER IN WHICH WE AGREED THEY WOULD BEGIN THEIR WORK" CAUSED SOVNETS SOME CONCERN. SOVIETS UNDERSTAND THAT IN OCTOBER MEETING AGREEMENT WAS ACHIEVED THAT BOTH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORKING GROUPS WOULD BEGIN SIMULTANEOUSLY. VERESHCHETIN ELABORATED ON THIS POINT BY NOTING THAT BOTH SIDES WILL BE WORKING WITH ALREADY ESTABLISHED SPACECRAFT (I.E., SHUTTLE AND SALYUT) AND IT WOULD THEREFORE BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE BASIS AND APPLIED SCIENCE JOINT WORKING GROUP TO REACH AGREEMENT WITHOUT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THESE SPACECRAFT. VERESHCHETIN ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE UNDERSTANDS

THAT DECISION FOR JOINT SHUTTLE-SALYUT FLIGHT WOULD BE ARRIVED AT FIRST IN THE BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCE JWG AND THE FOLLOW THROUGH WOULD BE IN THE OPERATIONS JWG.

- (C) SOVIET TEXT HAS EXACT TRANSLATION OF PROPOSED NASA PARAGRAPH ON ACCOMMODATION OF PAYLOADS PER REFTEL B.

 (C) REMAINDER OF TEXT IDENTICAL TO THAT ALREADY AGREED BETWEEN THE NASA AND INTERKOSMOS. VERESHCHETIN SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE TELEGRAPHIC REPLY FROM NASA AS TO WHETHER THE ADDED PHRASE "THE WORK OF BOTH JOINT WORKING GROUPS SHOULD BEGIN SIMULTANEOUSLY", ACCEPTABLE. HE STATED THE SOVIETS HAVE TWO ORIGINALS OF RUSSIAN TEXT READY FOR TRANSMITTAL TO NASA THROUGH EMBASSY AS SOON AS NASA CONCURRENCE RECEVIED. VERESHCHETIN SAID THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT DECIDED WHETHER AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED BY ACADEMY PRESIDENT ALEXANDOR OR PETROV BUT IN ANY EVENT DR. LOVELACE WOULD BE SATISFACTORY SIGNER ON THE U.S. SIDE. EMBASSY POUCHING RUSSIAN TEXT RECEIVED TODAY TO NASA FOR ZOOK.
- 2. VERESHCHETIN CONCLUDED DISCUSSIONS OF THE SHUTTLE-SALYUT AGREEMENT BY EXPRESSING HOPE THAT AGREEMENT CAN BE SIGNED THIS MONTH AND THAT JWG CAN START MEETING IN MOSCOW BY END OF MAY.
- 3. TURNING TO RENEWAL OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT, VERESHCHETIN COMMENTED THAT MFA LAWYERS HAVE ADVISED HIM THAT ARTICLE 3 OF MAY 24, 1972 AGREEMENT WOULD NOT NEED REVISION; REFERENCE TO THW SHUTTLE-SALYUT AGREEMENT COULD BE MADE IN AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES DOCUMENTING THE EXTENSION OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT.

4. VERESHCHETIN STATED THE SOVIET SIDE WAS LESS SURE HOW TO HANDLE THE ACADEMY-NASA AGREEMENT REFERENCED IN ARTICLE 1 OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT, NOTING THAT THE SOVIETS CONSIDER THE NASA ACADEMY AGREEMENT AS ALREADY HAVING BEEN EXTENDED THROUGH EXCHANGES OF TELEXES. SCICOUNS NOTED HERE THAT WHILE THIS MAY BE SO, NASA EXPECTS A FULL REPLY TO THE LOVELACE LETTER ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE JWGS IN THIS AGREEMENT. VERESHCHETIN RESPONDED THAT HIS SIDE HAD BEEN WORKING HARD ON THIS AND THAT A FORMAL RESPONSE FROM PETROV WILL BE READY WITHIN SEVERAL DAYS. VERESHCHETIN ALSO NOTED THAT THE EXACT DATE THE ACADEMY-NASA AGREEMENT HAS BEEN EXTENDED AND FOR WHAT PERIOD STILL NEEDS TO BE DOCUMENTED.

TOON

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